General **Provisions** 

Hunting regulations are designed to protect wildlife populations and ensure the continuation of sport hunting. The following general regulations apply to Panther Swamp NWR and supplement regulations governing hunting on wildlife refuge areas as set forth in Title 50. Code of Federal Regulations and applicable state regulations.

GeneralHunting Regulations Public hunting is permitted on Panther Swamp NWR subject to provisions in this brochure.

By state law non-residents may not take antlerless deer.

High water may cause temporary closures of hunt areas. Closures will be posted at Hunter Information Stations.

All participants must wear a minimum of 500 square inches of unbroken fluorescent orange visible above the waistline while hunting and while enroute to and from hunting areas during refuge firearm deer seasons.

Use or possession of any drug or device for employing such drug for hunting is prohibited.

It is unlawful to drive or screw a metal object into a tree or to hunt from a tree in which metal objects are placed.

Dogs are permitted for squirrel, waterfowl, raccoon/opossum and February rabbit hunting only.

Camping prohibited. Horses prohibited.

Parked vehicles must not obstruct any portion of a road, gate, turnrow or field access ramp and must not obstruct the flow of traffic.

Vehicle use is restricted to paved or gravel roads as shown on brochure

ATV use is permitted only on designated ATV trails from September 15, 2000-February 28, 2001, except as noted under turkey

hunts. ATV use is for hunter access only. Joy riding is not permitted. ATVs will not be allowed to retrieve deer. No ATVs on levees.

Permanent blinds or stands are prohibited. During gun deer hunts, hunting from tripods and other free-standing platforms is prohibited in fields and tree plantations. Stands adjacent to fields or tree plantations must be a minimum of 10 feet above ground.

Firearms prohibited except during authorized gun hunts. No hunting or shooting from levees.

Possession of a loaded or uncased firearm is prohibited in or on a vehicle, ATV or boat under power. Loaded is defined as shells in gun or percussion caps on muzzleloaders. Loaded firearms prohibited on roads, levees, pipelines or powerline rights-of-way.

It is unlawful to attach any stand to a power or utility pole.

Report all game taken on a pink User Information Card at a Hunter Information Station before leaving the refuge.

No man-drives for deer. Hunting from or shooting across open fields from ground level prohibited during gun deer hunts. Firearms must be **unloaded** while standing beside, in, or walking across any portion of a field or tree plantation.

Plastic flagging tape is prohibited

Littering in any form is prohibited.

Deer stands must be removed within seven days of the close of the last refuge deer season.

All other public use prohibited during gun deer hunts.

Farmers Home Administration lands administered by Yazoo NWR Complex are closed to all public use **except** as authorized by Refuge

Manager. Contact Yazoo NWR for special regulations.

All deer and turkeys taken during limited permit hunts must be tagged immediately and prior to any attempt to remove the animal from the point of recovery.

To tag deer, insert tag through gambrel of back leg or around antler. Place turkey tag around bare leg of turkey. Remove entire backing, and press adhesive sides tightly together, leaving entire face of tag exposed and all of adhesive ends attached firmly together.

Crossbows are prohibited.

Possession of alcoholic beverages prohibited on refuge.

In addition to a State hunting license, each hunter 16 years of age or older must carry a refuge permit on their person. Hunters under 16 years of age must carry a Hunter Safety Course Card or Certificate and be accompanied by an adult 21 vears old or older. An adult may supervise only one youth.

Each hunter must obtain and fill out a pink User Information Card before hunting and display it on the vehicle dash so that name and address are visible from the outside. Before leaving refuge, users must complete the reverse side of the card and deposit it in a drop box at one of the Hunter Information Stations. Include all game harvested on card. If no game is harvested, report "0".

Limited Permit deer and turkey hunts require a permit which is assigned by random computer drawing. If drawn, there is a \$12.50 fee for each permit. Permits are non-transferrable and nonrefundable. Applications for limited deer hunts will only be accepted from August 15-September 15, 2000. Turkey applications will only be accepted from January 15February 20, 2001.

To apply, mail complete name, address and date of birth for each applicant. All applications must be **signed** by at least one applicant. No more than five people may apply on one deer application or two people on one turkey application. If selected, you will be notified of procedures to submit the \$12.50 fee for your permit. You may apply on a plain sheet of paper. Each application must designate refuge, type and date of hunt (example: Panther Swamp NWR, Gun Hunt, Nov. 18-20). You may apply for only one Limited Deer Hunt. If an applicant is under 16, the name of an adult sponsor (over 21) must be included on their application. Duplicate applications will be rejected. Only successful applicants will be notified.

Payment for Limited Draw Permits and Public Use Permits must be separate.

Each small game or archery deer hunter age 16 or older must have on their person a valid State hunting license and a Refuge Public Use Permit. The Public Use Permit is valid for all unlimited deer and small game hunts on Yazoo, Panther Swamp, Hillside, Morgan Brake and Mathews Brake NWRs. Permit expires June 30, 2001. There is a \$12 fee for each permit issued.

To obtain a Refuge Public Use Permit, mail your complete name, address, and date of birth on a plain sheet of paper and specify "Unlimited Hunts" on envelope. Enclose a money order or cashier's check which includes \$12 for each **permit** requested. Applications will be accepted by mail beginning August 1, 2000. There is no deadline for Public Use Permit applications. Applications will also be accepted over-the-counter during regular office hours, Monday through Friday at Yazoo NWR Headquarters (closed

Specific Hunt Regulations

See brochure map for areas closed to hunting. State bag limits and firearms restrictions apply unless listed otherwise.

Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic

on federal holidays and weekends).

shot and .22 rifles only. Possession of Small Game Hunts Public Use Permit toxic shot, buckshot and slugs \$12 Fee

Squirrel & Rabbit

October 14-November 16, 2000; November 20-December 1, 2000: December 21, 2000 - February 28, 2001. Restricted to designated waterfowl hunting areas starting

December 1.

prohibited.

State hunt. State bag.

Youth Squirrel Rabbit with Dogs

February 12-28, 2001. Area east of Auxiliary Channel and that portion of waterfowl hunt area along West Levee.

RaccoonsDogs Required

During October, November, and February only. Contact refuge manager. No hunting allowed during limited hunts.

Furbearers

Valid permit holders may take furbearers in season incidental to other refuge hunts with weapons legal for that hunt. Only raccoon, opossum, fox, bobcat, covote, beaver, nutria, mink, skunk or muskrat may be taken. The only hunting allowed at night is for raccoon and opossum.

Bia Game Hunts Permit Required

Legal bucks must have at least four points in all deer hunts.

Hunters will not be allowed to use ATVs off trails to retrieve deer.

Deer (Archery) Public Use Permit \$12 Fee

September 30-November 16, 2000 and December 21, 2000 - January 31, 2001. Either sex. Note: The December - January archery hunt is in the waterfowl hunting area only (see brochure map).

DeerRegular Gun

Rifles, buckshot and slugs permitted. All deer harvested during either sex regular gun hunts must be checked at deer check stations located at Gumbo Acres.

Public Use Permit \$12 Fee

Hunts

Small Game &

Archery Deer

Limited Deer & Turkey Hunts Limited Permit \$12.50 Fee

General

Hunting

Requirements

Stricklin's or Lower Twist access points. Check stations will be open from 8:00 am - 7:00 pm. Deer must

be field dressed.

Nov. 18-20, 2000 Limited Permit-\$12.50 Fee

Bag limit - One deer, either sex. Deer must be tagged.

Dec. 16-20,2000

Bag limit - One deer, either sex. Limited Permit-\$12.50 Fee Deer must be tagged.

Deer Muzzleloader Limited Permit-\$12.50 Fee

Dec. 2-6, 2000; Dec. 9-13, 2000 Bag limit - one buck and one doe. Deer must be tagged. Check stations not open. Report deer at Hunter Information Station.

TurkeyLimited Permit-\$12.50 Fee

March 31-May 1, 2001. Gobblers only. Bag limit - one gobbler. Turkey must be tagged. Shotgun and archery only. ATVs permitted only on Southern Natural Gas pipeline from Cotton's Access to Tupelo Brake Duck Club boundary and on ATV trails originating from Lower Twist access point as designated on brochure map.

State hunt, State regulations.

Youth Turkey unlimited

Feral hogs may be taken by permit holders incidental to other refuge Hoghunts with weapons legal for that hunt. Unlimited bag. No dogs.

Migratory Birds Public Use Permit \$12 Fee

Shotguns shooting approved nontoxic shot only. Possession of toxic

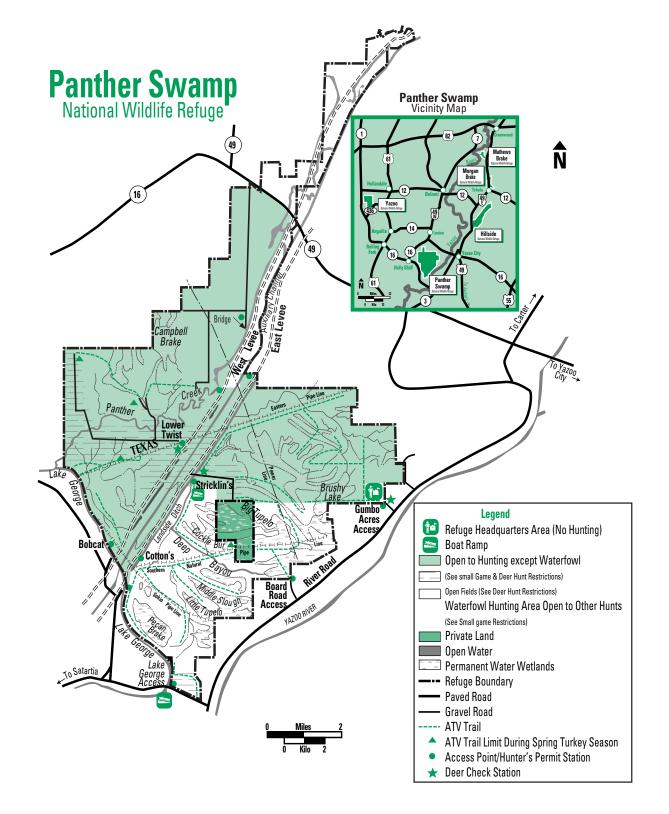
shot prohibited. Duck

State season (Except closed during all Gun deer hunts.) There is no early teal season. Shooting hours end each day at noon. Duck hunters must remove all decoys and harvested waterfowl from the area by 1:00 pm each day. See brochure map for designated hunting areas.

December 30-31 restricted to youth waterfowl hunt. See below.

Youth Waterfowl

December 30-31, 2000. State bag. Morning hunting only. Adult may only hunt with youth. See above for hunting hours. See general regulations for youth hunters. Both vouth and adult may hunt.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## **Panther Swamp**

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2000-2001



Yazoo, Panther Swamp, Hillside, Morgan Brake and Mathews Brake National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) make up the Yazoo NWR Complex. Request maps, permits and additional information from: Yazoo NWR Complex, 728 Yazoo Refuge Road, Hollandale, MS 38748, 662/839 2638.

## Notice:

All hunters must possess a refuge permit which certifies that they understand and will comply with the regulations contained in this brochure.

Violation of Refuge or State regulations may result in confiscation of Refuge Permits in addition to prosecution.

